

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-16 (cancelled).

17 (currently amended). A method of converting a clutch having at least one spring mounted on a clutch cover into a centrifugally assisted clutch, the method comprising the steps of:

5 providing at least one centrifugal lever housing including a lever pivotable in the housing for applying a force to a pressure plate of the clutch;

forming an opening for the lever in the cover of the clutch;  
inserting the lever in the opening; and

10 securing the housing to the cover

the centrifugal lever housing as secured to the cover being located in a final assembly of the cover with the pressure plate so that the lever is operatively engaged with the pressure plate and free of pivoting connection to the pressure plate.

18 (original). The method of claim 17 wherein said providing at least one lever housing step comprises providing three lever housings.

19 (original). The method of claim 17 wherein said at least one lever housing comprises a cartridge.

20 (original). The method of claim 19 wherein said securing the housing step comprises welding the cartridge to the cover.

21 (original). The method of claim 17 further comprising forming an opening in the spring for the lever.

22 (original). The method of claim 21 further comprising securing a contact pad to the pressure plate of the clutch and aligning the contact pad for contact with the lever.

23 (original). The method of claim 22 wherein said securing the contact pad step comprises welding a contact pad to an upper face of the pressure plate of the clutch.

24 (original). The method of claim 17 wherein said at least one lever housing comprises a mounting bracket.

25 (original). The method of claim 24 wherein said securing the housing step comprises welding the bracket to the cover.

26 (original). The method of claim 17 wherein inserting the lever step comprises aligning the lever for contact with the spring.

27-46 (cancelled).

47 (new). A method of converting a clutch having at least one spring mounted on a clutch cover into a centrifugally assisted clutch, the method comprising the steps of:

providing at least one centrifugal lever housing including a lever pivotable in the housing for applying a force to a pressure plate of the clutch;

forming an opening for the lever in the cover of the clutch;  
inserting the lever in the opening comprising aligning the lever for contact with the spring; and  
securing the housing to the cover.

48 (new). A method of converting a clutch having at least one spring mounted on a clutch cover into a centrifugally assisted clutch, the method comprising the steps of:

providing at least one centrifugal lever housing including a lever pivotable in the housing for applying a force to a pressure plate of the clutch;

forming an opening for the lever in the cover of the clutch;  
inserting the lever in the opening;  
securing the housing to the cover; and  
forming an opening in the spring for the lever.

49 (new). A method of converting a clutch having at least one spring mounted on a clutch cover into a centrifugally assisted clutch, the method comprising the steps of:

providing at least one centrifugal lever housing including a lever pivotable in the housing for applying a force to a pressure plate of the clutch;

forming an opening for the housing in the cover of the clutch;

inserting the housing in the opening; and

securing the housing as inserted in the opening to the cover.

50 (new). The method of claim 49 wherein said securing the housing step comprises welding the housing to the cover.

51 (new). The method of claim 49 wherein inserting the housing step comprises aligning the lever for contact with the spring.

52 (new). The method of claim 49 further comprising providing a spring mounted on the housing to provide resistance to the pivoting motion of the lever.

53 (new). The method of claim 17 further comprising providing a spring mounted on the housing to provide resistance to the pivoting motion of the lever.